



Rotary 
 Club of Bombay West
THE FLYING CARPET
CLUB BULLETIN

IN SERVICE
 OF HUMANITY...
 SINCE 1954

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FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION

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PRESIDENT - RAHUL GOENKA

Vantage Point

The reasons we come to our Rotary Club of Bombay West (RCBW) varies for each one of us. We each have our vantage point. A person's vantage point is determined by their **experiences, expectations** and **education**. Infact, unknowingly, we have several vantage points for our connection to Rotary, changing sometimes with each meeting or project or the group of Rotarians we interact with. I had one such life experience on a trip to conduct a Rotary Project. As the then medical director of our Club, I was visiting an eye check-up camp in Palghar Taluka of Palghar District. The purpose was to provide eye care to the Adivasis from the neighbouring area of the camp and, subsequently, conduct cataract surgeries for those who required it. I sat huddled in a corner with fellow organizers of the camp. An elderly woman helped usher the slow but steady stream of examinees to the doctors and medical aides with various eye examination apparatus and machines. One of the local camp organizer, in conversation, told the backstory of the elderly woman's life as under -

- Last year, she had surgery for breast cancer and was bedridden for a long time
 - That year she lost her beloved husband, who passed away due to Covid
 - In the same year, she turned 60 and was retired, quitting the local factory where she loved working for last 42 years
 - During the year, the roof of her house collapsed in a freak unseasonal rain and the repair costs we beyond her financial capability, especially as she was retired
 - Her youngest son was injured in the above accident and could appear for his final engineering exam
- "What a bad year!", exclaimed my fellow camp organizer. I felt sad for the elderly Sevika. Though the lines on her face spoke volumes of her life experiences, her eyes showed no gloom or pensive feelings. Infact, coupled with her smile, her eyes showed more hope... or maybe I was reading wrong. As the crowd thinned in the afternoon, we got chatting with helpers at the camp. Post lunch the elderly aide was joined by her would-be daughter-in-law. The young woman got speaking about the inspiration of her would-be mother-in-law -
- Last year, her husband died of Covid. He had finally found peace, and was with God, as he had been suffering from weak lungs which remained untreated as they could not afford the same
 - Because the husband had Covid, the whole family underwent scanning, including the elderly lady, who was diagnosed with breast cancer, at an early stage, and received timely treatment
 - It was great that she retired, when she did, as the cancer and its treatment had taken a toll on her body and she would anyways not be able to work full time. She had worked enough all her life and supplemented her farmer-husband's incomes and supported the family.
 - Divine powers had heard her prayers and her youngest son escaped with his life and recovered fully from his injuries
 - An NGO came forward to help pay fees of the additional term her youngest son had to do to cover his missed exams. While hearing the youngest son's financial plight, to grant him scholarship, the NGO roped in other NGOs to provide medical aid for the cancer treatment of the elderly lady and also have her house repaired. Ingratitude to the help of the NGOs, the elderly Sevika now devotes time as an aide worker for various NGOs in the various camps they organise through the year

The would-be daughter-in-law heaved a sigh of relief that last year was a year full of extraordinary blessings from God, and her family was filled with gratitude. My eyes teared up. My heart filled with gratitude for Rotary for giving me an opportunity to meet and support such brave hearts, that too in my city's backyard. More importantly, I am grateful to the young girl for a different vantage point of the challenges in the elderly Sevika's life. It all came from young girl's experience and that of those around her, her expectations from life, and her education. I find myself committed to helping this community in future with their education and help them meet their expectations from life. I know Rotary will help me realise this silent commitment.

A different perspective, of the same events, made me realise that having a positive vantage point in life was all that mattered. A great statesman, Abraham Lincoln said – "We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses." In this life we must understand that it is not happiness or joy that makes us grateful but it is gratitude that makes us happy and joyful!

In your gratitude,

Rahul Murari Goenka

In Service of Community and Club



KNOW YOUR ROTARIAN REPORT

Know Your Rotarian on 21st August 2024 where RCBW met 5 Rotarians, each sharing their unique experiences in Rotary. First our very own



PP Rtn. Krishna Kejriwal took us through the time in 1985 where to become a member of RCBW, there was a waiting period of 2 / 5 years. Attendance rules were very strict and if one missed three meetings in a row without leave of absence, their membership was in danger. Members had to attend the meetings of other clubs as "a Make-up meeting" which was a fantastic way to meet other Rotarians.



PP Rtn. Gautam Chande, our legacy member grew up in Rotary and was witness to many legendary cricket parties which his father and mom hosted. RCBW has always been family away from family and his wife Sonia used to come to RCBW with her Rotarian father Rtn. Anil Ganu. The challenges that Gautam believes the club faces are getting new members.



PP Rtn. Prabha Binani comes with a huge Rotary experience. She was a member in two districts before joining our district. She was the president of her club in Kolkata and was involved in several district positions. When she moved to Mumbai, she knew she wanted to continue her journey with Rotary. She used to pass our club building during her visit to Mumbai and that is what sealed the deal. She is enjoying her membership and all the fellowship and causes.



Rtn. Zoeb Kanorwala, our very own "Young Old Rotarian". He was excited to join Rotary as he wants a chance to "give back" to society. He believes our club has the magic to do anything – like for example, when last year the club wanted to donate the machine for almost 3 Cr. Rupees to Tata Hospital, almost Rs. 2.5 Crore was raised from the club through their members, family & friends.



Rtn. Kanwar Dang, our Banker Rotarian, is actively involved with many social causes in the club and joined Rotary as he wanted to do structured social activity.



Rtn. Advait Sambhare is also a 2nd generation Rotarian and has been involved in our club since he was 10 years through his dad Rtn. Milind Sambhare. He was amazed by the camaraderie in RCBW and suggested making use of social media platforms to promote causes of our club.



Rtn. Dr. Himanshu, as usual amazingly guided through the evening and moderated the forum and kept the audience captivated through the evening with many stories of the past and amazing suggestions for the future.



It was a great evening, well attended and very informative.

- Rtn Neevia Bathena

ORGAN DONATION SEMINAR

Dear Fellow Rotarians and Supporters for Spreading Organ Donation Awareness, The 6th Eye Skin and Organ Donation Awareness Seminar was held on Sunday 25th August 2024. Graced by our DG Rtn Chetan Desai Chief Guest and Dr Akshay Shukla Director ROTTO SOTTO as Guest of Honour attended by over 70 core team members of LBL Foundation and Members of RCBW and Rotarians from District 3141. Rtn Rahul Goenka president RC Bombay West was in the Chair. The inaugural issue of Sanjeevani from LBL Foundation was also released on the occasion. The seminar received huge appreciation from the attendees and once again appealing to each one of you to join this Life Saving initiative and make the lives of millions of the community to have a better life. Thanks to each of you who attended and look forward to more and more attendance in so many initiatives being planned by the core team of LBL foundation. Best wishes Rtn Harmindar.

- Rtn Harminder Patheja



PODAR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, R.R. PODAR SCHOOL AND SHETH ANANDILAL PODAR SCHOOL INTERACT INSTALLATION CEREMONY



The Installation Ceremony of three Interact Clubs, namely Podar International School, R.R. Podar School and Sheth Anandilal Podar School unified under the esteemed Rotary Club of Bombay West had their installation ceremony collectively on 13 August 2024 at the Podar International School Hall. The ceremony began with the solemn Lighting of the Lamp, followed by a moving Prayer Song and the National Anthem, setting a memorable tone for the event.



Among the distinguished guests were our Youth Service Director Rtn. Paresh Dodhiwala; Rtn. PP Arvind Shah; Rtn. Samapti Patel; and the guest of honour, President of the Rotary Club of Bombay West, Rtn. Rahul Goenka.



The ceremony celebrated the accomplishments and aspirations of the outgoing Presidents + namely : Swara Vagal of Podar International School, Darshan Sutar of R.R. Podar Shala, and Khushbu Gupta of Sheth Anandilal Podar School. They provided an overview of their year-long efforts and expressed heartfelt gratitude for the collective support that made their tenures successful.



The baton was then handed over to the incoming Presidents and Secretaries: Aaquib Khatri and Riddhi Shah (Podar International School), Shravan Nikam and Malika Jadiyal (R.R. Podar Shala), and Priya Gupta and Saniya Bina (Sheth Anandilal Podar School). They then passed on their collars and pins to the incoming presidents symbolizing their commitment, responsibility and faith in the movement and club.



All dignitaries were honoured with a Tulsi plant by the teachers of the respective schools. Rtr. Riddhi Seth, President of the Rotaract Club of Andheri, also attended the ceremony and was also felicitated. In his inspiring address, Rtn. Rahul Goenka highlighted the importance of hope in leadership and assured the new office-bearers of the continued support from Rotary and Rotaract. Rtn. Paresh Dodhiwala and Rtn. Samapti Patel also spoke, sharing messages of encouragement and the significance of organ donation respectively. Rtr. Riddhi Seth expressed her congratulations and best wishes to the incoming Presidents and Secretaries.



The ceremony continued with a vibrant dance performance by the talented students of Podar International School and Sheth Anandilal Podar School. This dynamic presentation captured the enthusiasm and excitement for the upcoming Interact year.

The event concluded with a gracious Vote of Thanks and the formal adjournment of the Installation Ceremony. This occasion not only celebrated the spirit of unity and service but also reinforced the collaborative bond among the three major Podar schools under the Rotary Club of Bombay West.



INSTALLATION CEREMONY OF THE INTERACT CLUB OF HUSSAIN ALANA SCHOOL.

On August 22nd, 2024 the Interact Club of Hussain Alana School held its Installation Ceremony, where the past core team bid farewell, and the new team was introduced. The outgoing president reflected on the year's successes, while the new president shared their vision for the future and mentioned a focus on care for senior citizens. Members performed a powerful act highlighting the importance of planting trees and promoting greenery. Rahul Sir then delivered an encouraging speech on leadership and service. The ceremony ended with a group photograph, marking the start of a promising new chapter for the club.



INSTALLATION CEREMONY OF THE ROTARACT CLUB OF N.M. COLLEGE ON 17TH AUGUST, 2024.



NEWS FROM RSPCT

Rtn. Jayant Sanghvi, on his appointment as RCBW's President Elect has relinquished his office as a Trustee of Rotary Service Public Charitable Trust. The Trustees have appreciated his contribution to the working of the Trust during his term as a Trustee.

In his place, Rtn. Sandeep Parikh has been appointed as Trustee with effect from 1st July, 2024 for a period of 3 years. Earlier, Rtn. Sandeep Parikh was associated with the Trust as Hon. Secretary. The Trustees have thanked him for his contribution in his capacity as Hon. Secretary.

RCBW Vice President Rtn. Tejas Sura has since been appointed as Hon. Secretary of the Trust for period ending on 30th June, 2026.

Rtn. Dr. Manoj Patel and Rtn. Apurva Nanavati have been given extension of another 3 years with effect from 1st July and 1st October 2024 respectively.

With these changes, the constitution of the Board of Trustees is as follows:

- Rtn. Aslam Merchant, Mg. Trustee
- Rtn. Harminder Singh Patheja, Trustee
- Rtn. Manoj Patel, Trustee
- Rtn. Apurva Nanavati, Trustee
- Rtn. Sandeep Parikh, Trustee
- Rtn. Tejas Sura, Hon. Secretary

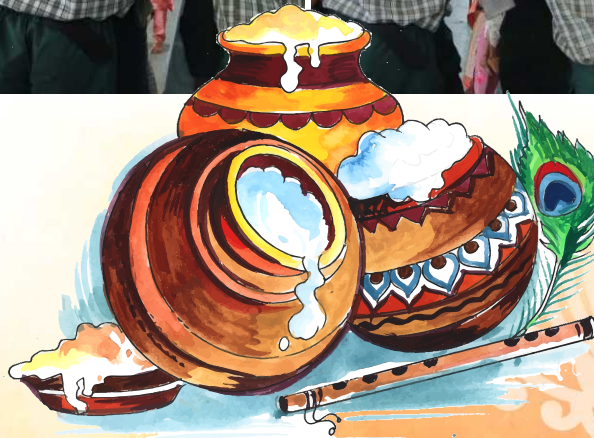
Ex-Officio Members of the Board of Trustees:

- Rtn. Rahul Goenka, President RCBW
- Rtn. Haituk Desai, Club Secretary, RCBW
- Rtn. Jayant Sanghvi, President Elect, RCBW

- PP Rtn Aslam Merchant

Janmashtami

FESTIVAL CELEBRATION AT KDN SHRUTI SCHOOL.



BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS



Rotarian Birthdays

- 18 Aug.: Rtn. Nishant Bafna
- 20 Aug.: Rtn. Dr. Manohar Shaan
- 21 Aug.: Rtn. Deepal Mody
- 22 Aug.: Rtn. Minoo Lalvani
- 24 Aug.: Rtn. Vipul Doshi
- 26 Aug.: Rtn. Dr. Snehal Jhaveri
- 30 Aug.: Rtn. Mangla Dembi
- 31 Aug.: PP Rtn. Mohan Joshi

R/Ann. Birthdays

- 20 Aug.: R/Ann. Tejal Sandeep Parikh
- 22 Aug.: R/Ann. Komal Sunil Shahane
- 23 Aug.: R/Ann. Vrushali Mahesh Kokate
- 25 Aug.: R/Ann. Trusha Sanjiv Lathia
- 31 Aug.: R/Ann. Ameeta Sandeep Welling

Anniversaries

- 26-Aug.: Rtn. Deep & Jyotika Bhatkal
- 26-Aug.: Rtn. Dr. Usha Jayachandran & Manoj Viswanathan